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A  
TRVE AND

*perfect discourse of three great  
accidents that chaunced in Italie*  
within twentie and  
sixe dayes.

*K Italy*

WORTHIE TO BE  
*published, the better to know the*  
Lords workes, and to teach vs, that  
with all humilitie wee should  
accept of whatsoeuer his  
will and pleasure is.



L O N D O N  
Printed by John Wolfe  
dwelling in Distaffe Lane neare  
the signe of the Castle.

1 5 8 8.

TRADE AND

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 things that changed in their  
 within two years  
 fixed as

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LONDON  
 Printed by John Wolfe  
 dwelling in Ditch Lane neare  
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**A T R V E A N D P E R-**  
fect discourse of three great acci-  
dents that chaunced in Italy, within  
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**T**here are come letters  
written to certaine  
Marchants of credite  
in this towne being  
strangers, some dated  
the twentieth of De-  
cember last, other some the second of  
Januarie, and other on the sixt of the  
same moneth, wherein are set downe  
the severall accidents hereafter follow-  
ing, the which are worthy to be reade  
and noted of everie good Christian, to  
the end, that with love one towards an  
other, and godly feare towards the ma-  
iestie of God, wee seeke in all dutifull  
manner to serve him, who suffereth not  
such

such plagues, but by his especiall secret  
iudgement for the punishment of the  
ungodly and example of his chosen  
people.

On the thirtenth of December,  
1587. and according to our course  
writing on the third of the same mo-  
neth, being Sunday, about two of the  
clocke in the after none, the aire being  
verie thicke and darkish with often  
lightenings and thunder, that did  
beate vpon one of the towers of the  
castle of S. Elmo in the citie of Napels,  
wherein there was three thousand  
barreles of gunne powder, the which  
being by this meanes set on fire, made  
such a terrible noise, that it seemed the  
whole went topsie turvey, and ouer-  
threw in like sort all the houses that  
were within the same castell: Of the  
which houses there remained not any  
stone one vpon another, so that, if in  
some part of the castle the walles had  
not remained and some rampiers,  
there woulde haue beens no remem-  
brance of any Castle or Tower that  
should haue beens there. And there  
escaped

escaped not above tenne persons that  
 were within the saide castell, and al-  
 readye there are two hundred bodies  
 dead, being men, women and children:  
 it hath also spoiled many other, as it is  
 thought, houses and churches to the  
 number of one thousand, and hath not  
 left so much as the verie stones that  
 were paved in their places, there is al-  
 most not one house in this poore citie,  
 as it now may be termed, but hath felt  
 in some sorte, part of this punishment:  
 and in conclusion, he that hath not seen  
 this miserable act, will hardly beleue  
 it, nor the miserable hurt that was  
 there done. But that, that is more  
 miraculous and worthe to be noted, is  
 that the wife of the Captaine of the  
 saide castell, two dayes before this  
 chanced, saide often times to her hus-  
 band, that she would not carrie in the  
 castell, her husband asking her, where-  
 fore, she answered that for three se-  
 nerall times one after an other, she  
 dreamed, that she should with the ca-  
 stell be blowne vp into the ayre, of the  
 which her speeches, her husbände for

tithis or thise made but a Jest, but in  
 the end, his wife was so importunate,  
 eight dayes before, he was content to  
 house himselfe, with al his whole hon-  
 hold in the cite, somewhat far off from  
 the castell: & by this meanes they avoy-  
 ded the danger which otherwise might  
 haue fallen vpon them, beinge as it  
 should seeme by the speciall fauor of  
 God. And the common opinion of all  
 men is, that if the said tower had stode  
 towarde the cite, as it was towarde  
 the sea, it had spoiled the most parte of  
 the cite. God the authoz of all good-  
 nes blesse and defend both them and  
 vs from such like extremities, and giue  
 vs grace so to leade our lines, that we  
 may be readie whensoever it shal please  
 him to call vs.

From Genoa the second of January,  
 1588. the which is according to our  
 order the xlii. of December before, they  
 doe write as followeth: Here is arri-  
 ued from Spaine a ship called Piuma,  
 the which had taken in, in the Isle of  
 Maiorica thre men that had been ta-  
 ken before by the Turkes and made  
 slaues,



named the which men told them of the  
 losse of three Gallies, in order as fol-  
 loweth. Signior Giannettino Spinola in  
 the Ile of Huia, with the Gallies of the  
 prince D'Oria, that came out of Spain,  
 beinge now aduertised, how that  
 there were seven smal Gallies of Tur-  
 kish Pirates in the Ile of Spalmado-  
 re, from thence seven or eight miles  
 off, hee was desirous to go and fight  
 with them, and presently hee furni-  
 shed eight Gallies with his best and  
 readiest men to fight, as well of Sol-  
 diers and Parriners, as others: and  
 thus they set themselves sojwarde to-  
 wards the saide Ile of Spalmadore,  
 but for that the wind was both great,  
 and also contrarie vnto them, the one  
 of the saide Gallies could not passe the  
 point of the saide Ile, and so hee tur-  
 ned backe againe, the other seven with  
 great force went sojward, and founde  
 the seven Turkish Pirates and their  
 Gallies, who looked for nothing lesse  
 than this, notwithstanding they took  
 courage vnto them, and foure of those

Turkish Gallies gaue themselves to fight, and the other thre fled. The foure small Gallies of the Turkes hauing ioyned themselves with thre Gallies of Genoa, and fighting on both sides most balliantly, there arose such a great tempest, that these Gallies beeing intangled together were driven vpon a Rocke, and so spoiled their Gallies, and many of their men were drowned, the other who saved themselves being come on land, they fell to fighting a fresh.

And the other thre Gallies that were fled, winding about the Island, found faire weather, and imagining what chanced, they landed two hundred fourescore and ten men, the which they sent to finde the other that were a fighting: they adioyning themselves with their other fellowes Turkes slew the most part of the Spaniards, and got againe many other Turkes that were slaues to the Spaniards: and it is thought that the Turkes carried away a great quantitie of money, but of this there is no certaintie. The  
one

one of the three Gallies was of Cigala, the other of Centurione, and the third of Grillo, all marchants of Genoa, who were fraught by Spaniards, the which thing is not to them alone a great hinderance, but also to such others as were interested in the mony.

He that wrote, wrote to the Lords of Genoa in this order. It is not long since I wrote vnto your Excellencies, how that in this town there haue beene discovered thinges neuer heeretofore heard off. What is, of a sect or schole of witches, and that many of them being examined of the fact, confessed. Now I write againe vnto you, signifying that after that the Vicars of the Reuerend Signior Albengo, and the Inquisition haue taken this matter in hand, there remained about eightene or twentie condemned, the greater part of them haue confessed voluntarily, & without any torment at all, besides which there remaineth as yet foure suspected, who haue not yet confessed any thing, and besides, there is in prison a witch, who hath confessed very much. So that

the aforesaide Wicars proceede in their  
 busines marvellous well, not respec-  
 ting rich nor poore, and this day as bp.  
 on other daies they sit in counsell for  
 the same purpose. The common peo-  
 ple of this place doe shew themselves in  
 such sort desirous of the cutting off of  
 these witches, that they haue taken vp  
 money at interest to helpe the said Wi-  
 cars. To morrow y<sup>e</sup> said Wicars depart  
 hence, to go to Albenga there to cōsult,  
 with the Reuerend Signior of Alben-  
 ga, and so they meane presently to turn  
 againe hither to make an end.

And truely (right honourable  
 Lords) y<sup>e</sup> dealings of these euil persons  
 are most straunge, in so much that they  
 can cause tempests with thunder and  
 lightnings and such other like euil, all  
 the which seme them, as they make  
 shew, to bee of account, for that they  
 presume to be able to doe farre greater  
 things: and that is moze, they kill their  
 owne childezen and kinsmen: and euen  
 as it were in a trise, they will leape  
 vpon the backe of the diuel, who shall  
 be in the likenes of a Ram; and goe to  
 their



their congregation soz to conclude vpon the doing of much euil, euen in the presence of the diuel, who sitteth there as chiefe iudge in likenesse of a king, befoze whom they doe openly deny God, and bequeath them selues to the diuel. These ought to be warnings vnto euerie good Christian to be ready, and prepared against the deceitful entisements of the diuel, the continuall enimie of mankind, and who (as saith S. Iohn in his Gospel) was a murderer euen from the beginning, and as S. Peter saith in his epistle, he goeth about like a roaring Lyon, seeking to deuour, and therefore we haue great need earnestly to pray vnto almightie God, that he will assist vs with his holy spirit, and so to guide vs, that we be the better able to resist the vile temptations of Satan, and following his holy steps, his name may be in vs glorified, and we in the end made partakers of his heauenly blessing, through Iesus Christ our Lord.

FINIS.